

February: The Blessing of New Life

Birth is an elusive mystery: an everyday occurrence in nature and rural life that is marvelous to behold. Its wonder and splendor bring a gift of innocence and hope. In a moment of revelation, we are privileged to witness or perhaps assist in the birth of God's creation into the world. Hand in hand with the Creator, we grasp the rhythm of new life, new breath, and new hope.

Let us pray. God our Creator bless the fresh born creatures of our land and oversee their needs with attentive care. Bear them into this life as the continuing newness of creation and your faithful cycle of promise and hope.

As you imbue them with the breath of life, breathe the freshness of your Spirit into our labored lungs.

In this same way, we ask you to bless all mothers and fathers for their sacrifice of love in your creative partnership, in bringing forth your love enfleshed in new life, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**